Tottenham Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE

YEAR 1925.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE (1925.)

Mr. H. FARTHING (Chairman).

Miss R. F. COX (Vice-Chairman).

Mrs. F. C. BRIGHTEN.

Mr. J. BRISTOW.

Mr. E. S. BROWN.

Mr. F. W. COX.

Mr. F. EASTON.

Mr. T. ELDERFIELD.

Mrs. E. L. FINCH.

Mr. W. FORDYCE.

Mr. E. C. HARRIS.

Major P. B. MALONE, M.P., J.P.

Mr. W. E. MONTAGUE.

Mr. E. J. MORLEY.

Mr. A. REED, A. F. I.

Mr. S. TIMMS.

CO-OPTED MEMBERS.

Mrs. H. BYERS.

Mrs. F. W. COX.

Mrs. A. M. ELLIS.

Mrs. A. KITCHENER.

Mrs. J. D. LYNCH.

Mrs. S. E. SANDERS.

Infant Welfare and Maternity Centres.

BRUCE CASTLE, BRUCE CASTLE PARK.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

*Monday Afternoon	2 o'clock
Tuesday Afternoon	2 ,,
Wednesday Afternoon	2 ,,
*Thursday Morning	9.30 ,,

Maternity Clinics for Expectant Mothers

are held on:—

*Tuesday Morning	9.30 o'clock
*Thursday Afternoon	2 ,,

THE CHESTNUTS, CHESTNUTS PARK.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Tuesday Afternoon	2 o'clock
*Wednesday Morning	9.30 ,,
Wednesday Afternoon	2 ,,
*Thursday Afternoon	2 ,,
*Friday Afternoon	2 ,,

Maternity Clinics for Expectant Mothers

are held on:—

*Monday Afternoon	2 o'clock
*Thursday Morning	9.30 ,,

TOWN HALL CENTRE.

Infant Welfare.

Wednesday Afternoon	2 o'clock.

DAY NURSERY, 240, St. Ann's Road.

Open Daily from Monday to Friday inclusive, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

In addition to the above Clinics, a Sewing Class for Mothers who attend the Centres, is held on Wednesday afternoons, at The Chestnuts, and at Bruce Castle.

MOTHERS' WELFARE CLUB.—A Social is held at each Centre once a month:—

The Chestnuts Centre—Third Wednesday of each month.

Bruce Castle Centre.—Last Wednesday of each month,

*Lady Doctor in attendance.

INTRODUCTION.

Medical Officer's Department,
Town Hall, Tottenham, N.15.

To the Chairman and other Members of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

April, 1926.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The year to which this report relates has been marked by incidents, amongst which the following are worthy of record:—

The first International Congress on Child Welfare was held at Geneva in August. Your Medical Officer was privileged to attend, and presented a paper on "The Education of Public Opinion in matters relating to Child Welfare." A comprehensive report upon the proceedings at Geneva engaged your Committee's attention.

The Town Hall Centre was established and furnished, and forms a very useful addition to your Committee's equipment.

An arrangement was entered into with the Prince of Wales's Hospital for the treatment of children under 5 years of age.

In October last, Grade A "Tuberculin Tested" Milk was substituted for the ordinary Milk supplied to necessitous mothers and children under the provisions of the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918, and Pamphlet M. and C. W. 4.

Likewise, Grade A "Tuberculin Tested" Milk was substituted for the ordinary Milk supplied at the Crèche.

During the summer holiday period of 1925, the Crèche was kept open for the reception of children whose mothers were at work. The attendance justified the experiment.

The usefulness of the Open-Air Shelter at the Crèche was added to by a water supply being laid on.

Two Crèche children were awarded £5 each in the Empire's Mother and Baby Competition, held at Wembley, and organised by the National Baby Week Council.

Students attending the Winter School of the Women's Sanitary Inspectors' and Health Visitors' Association visited the Welfare Centres and the Créche in January, and about 50 members in July from the Summer School organised by the National Baby Week Council.

Special groups of students attending Mothercraft Classes visited the Centres and Crèche from Greystoke and St. Katherine's Training Colleges, and from West Green, Stamford Hill, Coleraine Park and Downhills Council Schools. A demonstration lesson to the elder girls was given by the Superintendent Health Visitor at Downhills and Coleraine Park Schools.

The mothers attending the Bruce Castle Centre presented the Centre with an oak, overstrung, upright piano. (The Chestnuts Centre mothers made a like addition at their Centre in the previous year).

The Mothers' Social Clubs at the Chestnuts and Bruce Castle continue to prosper.

The work of the year is set out in detail in the following pages.

For the encouragement given to the staff by your Committee, I desire to express sincere thanks. The enthusiasm with which the Members of the Committee entered into the activities of the Department has been an inspiration to all actively engaged in it.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

David L. Kirkhope.

Medical Officer of Health.

BIRTHS, 1925.

LIVE BIRTHS.

Registrar-General's Figures—M.	.. ..	1,388
F	.. ..	1,368
		*2,756

Local Information:—

Total Births notified	.. ..	2,723
Less Still Births	.. ..	85
Total Live Births	.. ..	2,638

*Births outside the District included in above:—

Council cases in District Maternity Home	.. ..	70
Other cases notified from District Maternity Home	..	220
Notified from other Outside Institutions	.. ..	162
		452

The Registrar's and the local figures do not agree because they relate to different periods. The local notifications are those of children born within the year. The Registrar's figures are those of children registered within the year.

BREAST FEEDING.

As the result of the Health Visitors' enquiries, it was ascertained that the infants have been fed as follows:—

Breast-fed for 6 months, or over	.. ..	2,215
Part breast-fed—plus milk, dried milk or condensed	..	165
Bottle feeding—Cows' milk	.. ..	123
Dried milk	.. ..	80
Other artificial foods	.. .. ..	55
		2,638

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The work of the MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE STAFF is set out in tabular form hereunder:—

HOME VISITS MADE UNDER THE NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACTS AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE ACT.

	Children under 1 year.		Children over 1 year.		Total.
	1st Visits.	Re-visits.	1st Visits.	Re-visits.	
Notification of Births ..	2,692	7,100	250	16,171	26,213
Still-births	73	41	—	—	114
Deaths	41	7	14	3	65
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	14	34	—	—	48
†Other Infectious Diseases	152	245	160	273	830
Total	2,972	7,427	424	16,447	27,270
	Maternity Visits.				
	1st Visits.	Re-visits.			
Ante-Natal	366	427	—	—	793
Post-Natal	604	948	—	—	1,552
Puerperal Fever	6	20	—	—	26
	Other Visits.				
	Mothers.	Children.			
	*374	282	—	—	656
Total Visits	—	—	—	—	30,297

† Other Infectious Diseases include Measles and German Measles, Bronchial Pneumonia, Tuberculosis, Whooping Cough, Poliomylitis.

*Other visits and re-visits include visits to hospital with swabs in connection with suspected contagious disease; massage cases, complaints of neglect and inspection of premises as to their suitability for nursing of children after operation, and visits for assisted milk supply.

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

	Total Attend-ances.	New Cases.	No. of Sessions.		Average Attendance per Session.		No. of Children on the Register 1-5 yrs.
			Morning	Aft'noon	Morning	Aft'noon	
St. Ann's .. (The Chestnnts)	12,934	742	52	205	35.17	54.42	1,539
Bruce Castle ..	9,302	575	53	152	37.20	48.22	1,298
Town Hall ..	1,709	117	—	48	—	33.52	269
Total ..	23,945	1,434	105	405	—	—	3,106

Medical Inspections.	Total Number.	New Cases.	Number of Sessions.	Average No. of Inspections per Session.
St. Ann's .. .. (The Chestnuts)	4,067	677	153	26.58
Bruce Castle ..	2,678	493	101	26.5
Town Hall	—	—	—	—
Total	6,745	1,170	254	—

Infant Mortality of Infants Attending the Infant Welfare Centres during 1925.

Centre.	1925 Births. No. on Register.	Deaths of Infants.	Infantile Death-rate
St. Ann's .. .. (The Chestnuts)	456	*3	6.5
Bruce Castle ..	352	4	11.36
Town Hall ..	91	—	—
Total	899		

*Includes babies referred for Medical Examination from the Town Hall Clinic.

Infant Mortality rate for whole area 54.4 per thousand births.

ANTE AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

Medical Examinations.	Ante-Natal.	Post-Natal.	Total.	Number of Sessions.	Average Attendance per Session.
St. Ann's .. (The Chestnuts)	791	517	1,308	104	12.57
Bruce Castle ..	652	367	1019	98	1.400
Total ..	1,443	884	2;327	202	—
New Cases— St. Ann's .. (The Chestnuts)	217	102	319	—	—
Bruce Castle ..	121	67	188	—	—
Total ..	338	169	507	—	—

DINNERS TO EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS.

Dinners to expectant and nursing mothers, and to children under 5 years of age, in necessitous cases, have been given as follows:—

Number of Dinners Served:—			In respect of—
To Expectant and Nursing Mothers.	To Toddlers.	Total.	
800	465	1,265	21 mothers 11 toddlers

MATERNITY HOMES AND HOSPITALS.

The arrangements with the Guardians, whereby Tottenham patients are admitted to the Maternity Home are still active and satisfactory.

The following table sets out the number of cases treated in this Institution and the Mothers' Hospital subsidised by your Committee, and the details relating to them:—

District Maternity Home, Edmonton	Mothers' Hospital.	Total	Discharged before Confinement	Confinements		Total	Mothers Delivered by:—		Total
				Live Births	Still Births		Mid-wives	Doctors	
65	5	70	1	69	1	70	64	5	69

*The difference between the 69 Confinements and the 70 Births is accounted for by the birth of twins.

Notified as Puerperal Sepsis.	Maternity Deaths.	No. of cases in which temperature rose above 100.4	Notified as Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Inflammation of the eyes.	Not Entirely breast-fed.
1	—	3	—	—	1

	£	s.	d.
Cost of patients admitted to Maternity Home ..	330	4	0
Contributions by patients towards maintenance ..	244	11	6
Net cost to Council	£85	12	6

Average duration of stay, 16 days.

CRÈCHE ATTENDANCES.

The attendances from 1st January to 31st December, 1925, were as follows:—

Number of days on which the Crèche was opened, 248.

Quarter.	Attendances under 3 years of Age.	Attendances over 3 years of Age.	Total.
1st January to 31st March ..	1,236	690	1,926
1st April to 30th June	1,009	515	1,524
1st July to 30th September ..	1,171	617	1,788
1st October to 31st December ..	1,050	509	1,559
	4,466	2,331	6,797

Number of children admitted:—

Under three years	67
Over three years	30
Total	97

Average daily attendance, 27·5.

Applications for assistance have been dealt with as follows:—

Assisted Milk Supply.—659 families were assisted in the supply of milk on behalf of expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age. The amount of milk authorised for distribution (fresh and dried milk) was 62,704 quarts or their equivalent.

Assistance has been given towards the payment of Midwives' Fees on 11 occasions, and for Home Helps in 2 instances.

CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT.

The arrangement with the Invalid Children's Aid Association for the maintenance of children at Convalescent Homes has been continued during 1925 as follows:—

19 children were sent away for varying periods, namely:—

Number of Weeks ..	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Number of Children ..	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	2	2	1	1	2
Number of Weeks ..	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	47
Number of Children ..	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1

1 child was provided with a Leg Instrument.

VOLUNTARY SERVICES.

The Mothers' Welfare Clubs still continue their activities (social and otherwise) at The Chestnuts and Bruce Castle.

The Ladies' Visiting Sub-Committee, consisting of the ladies of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, have visited the various Centres in rotation and reported periodically on the work.

The Sewing Class at The Chestnuts is under the supervision of Mrs. N. Pickford, and at Bruce Castle under one of the Health Visitors. The sewing necessary in connection with the Day Nursery is assisted in by Miss Cremolina, as in former years.

The Committee are indebted to the following donors for gifts to the Centres and the Crèche during the year:—

From Mrs. H. Byers.—A cheque for £3 10s., being the proceeds of the "Y" Choir Concert, to provide toys for the Centres and the Crèche.

From Mrs. Councillor F. C. Brighten.—A piano-stool for Bruce Castle Centre.

From the Dorcas Society of the High School for Girls.—Babies' clothing.

Harringay Brotherhood, from the Scoutmaster, through Mr. Inwood. —Parcels, which were sent to 20 selected poor families, whose names were supplied by the Superintendent Health Visitor.

From Mrs. Jennings, 45, Peabody Buildings.—The gift of a pram.

For the Crèche.—From Miss Boar (Crouch End), Miss Councillor R. F. Cox, Mrs. A. M. Ellis, Mrs. Councillor Finch, Mr. Councillor F. Easton, Mrs. Fawcett, Kensington (through Dr. Alice Stalker), Mrs. Kitchener, Miss Todd, Crowland Road Infants' School (through Dr. Alice Stalker).

The matron of the Crèche and the staff provided a party for the children which was much appreciated.